



Franciscan Nardini Welfare Programme t/a Sizanani Outreach Programme
PBO Registration Number: 930001015
NPO Registration Number: 069-216-NPO
Phone/Fax: +27 (0)35 833-0026
Email: nardinis@mweb.co.za

09 February 2021

Dear Mrs Stamm, Staff and pupils of St. Ursula's Gymnasium

Re: Donation to Sizanani Outreach Programme



We would like to thank you for your donation of 6700€ towards our efforts to relieve the suffering of the poor, especially the children here in Nkandla. For many years now your school has supported the various initiatives Mrs Susanne Lemmer has undertaken to raise funds for Sizanani Outreach Programme (SOP). On her many visits here, she witnessed first-hand the situations of poverty, illiteracy, and unemployment faced by the majority of people living here in Nkandla.

Covid-19 has only made the situation worse. In March 2020 the South African Government placed the country under a level five lockdown, and during this period more than three million people lost their jobs, and many of these returned to their homes in rural areas, joining the kilometre long queues of people dependant on Social support grants. The economic collapse of the country has led to more people living in poverty and thus more children exposed to neglect, lack of food, and other opportunities.

Before Covid-19 it is estimated that 14 million people in South Africa did not have enough to eat, and more than 9.6 million children received food aid (one meal a day) through school feeding schemes.



Franciscan Nardini Welfare Programme t/a Sizanani Outreach Programme
PBO Registration Number: 930001015
NPO Registration Number: 069-216-NPO
Phone/Fax: +27 (0)35 833-0026
Email: nardinis@mweb.co.za

The closure of schools for a large part of the year because of Covid-19 meant that all these children were deprived of what was possibly their only source of good nutrition for several weeks. Government schools will only reopen in the middle of February 2021 and once again children are both deprived of food and education. Private schools have managed the transition to online education fairly easily as they have the financial means, expertise and infrastructure needed, but rural schools lack these means and as a result thousands of children have received practically no educational input for months on end.

It is against this backdrop of poverty and vulnerability that we have to deal with Covid-19 and the risk it poses to the health, and fragile economic situation of our clients, our staff and the organisation itself. A significant portion of Funding received had to be diverted to the purchase of Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) – thermometers, face masks, sanitizers, soap, gloves etc. in order to ensure the safety of SOP staff and clients. The situation of Covid-19 is very serious, and the importance of people washing their hands well to limit transmission of the virus cannot be emphasised enough. For many of the people living in Nkandla even this is a challenge as they do not have access to running water and even the community taps are dry. Only about 50.6% of the population has access to piped water (taps in the house or in the garden or a community tap). This makes frequent hand-washing and cleaning of surfaces a difficulty for many people. 92% of the population lives in traditional mud huts with at least seven people living together in one hut. This makes social distancing among family members very difficult. The request for food aid has increased dramatically over the past year and currently we are distributing more than 400 food parcels per month. Your donations have specifically helped us to provide E-Pap, which is vitamin enriched porridge.

South Africa is currently going through the second wave of Covid-19 and many people are dying. Some families have lost several loved ones within the space of a few days. People are traumatised by all the loss and sickness around them.

Once again we would like to thank you, the staff, parents and pupils for your kind donation towards our work with the poor. Your financial support has enabled us to continue to provide help to those most disadvantaged. Thank you.

We wish you all God's blessings and protection.

Kind regards.

Debra Buckham, staff of SOP with Sr Ellen Lindner and all those who have benefitted from your generous donation.

Sizanani Outreach Programme Nkandla / South Africa

nardinis@mweb.co.za

